

CANNONS

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The Law Students Newspaper

APRIL 1999



Hosted by SLS and the Corporate Law Club

Photos by Mary Mazur

U of A Law School Ranked 11th in Nation

Dean questions survey's methods

by Andrew Bachelder (2L)

Canadian Lawyer magazine's 1999 Law Schools Report Card gave the U of A law school a B+ and an 11th place ranking out of 19 schools. The University of Calgary took the top place honours.

The magazine determines its grades and rankings by requesting responses from graduates over the past five years. This year 1,017 former students responded with their thoughts on how their law school did at providing a legal education. There is no data available as to how many U of A graduates responded.

The survey asks for grades in the following categories: curriculum; faculty; caring profs; students; testing; facilities; practice relevance; and recommended by (see chart #1 for U of A scores). The entry for the U of A is as follows:

"Lots and lots of theory. That's what graduates say they walked away with at U of A. Most seemed to like this approach (otherwise, they would have gone to the U of C perhaps), but respondents were less impressed by the quality of the faculty itself. A lot of pedagogical deadwood were hired for their political and legal-style acumen rather than their ability to teach substantive law or even interact with students," suggests one grad. Not surprisingly, "political correctness" is considered a problem by many ex-students."

Dean Lewis Klar is not impressed by the method the Canadian Lawyer uses to determine its rankings. "My feeling about these surveys is that they are worthless in terms of actually trying to read some scientific validity in them because they don't have enough respondents, they are not trying to measure any data - they are just sort of junk journalism," said Klar.

Chart #1: Canadian Lawyer Survey - Rankings of Law Schools

University	Rank 1999	Canadian Lawyer Final Grade
Calgary	1	A-
Toronto	2	A-
Victoria	3	B+
Moncton	4	B+
Windsor	5	B
Sherbrooke	6	B
New Brunswick	7	B
Dalhousie	8	B
McGill	9	B
Western	10	B
Alberta	11	B
Saskatchewan	12	B
Ottawa (Common Law)	13	B
Osgoode	14	B
Manitoba	15	B-
Laval	16	B-
Montreal	17	B-
Queen's	18	B-
British Columbia	19	B-

Chart #2: University of Alberta - Canadian Lawyer Survey Results

Category	1996	1997	1998	1999
Overall	C	B-	B	B
Curriculum	B-	B-	B	B+
Faculty	B-	B-	B-	B
Students	C	B	B+	B-
Testing	C	C	C+	C+
Facilities	B+	A	A-	B+
Practice Relevance	C	C+	C+	B-
Recommended by	81%	74%	91%	92%
Caring Profs	Not asked	51% - 74%	51% - 74%	51% - 74%

The Dean also argues that the quote about the "pedagogical deadwood" in the faculty is meaningless. "That was one comment from one student," he said. "You cannot take one comment from one student and make a story out of it." Klar points out that the faculty scores over the last four surveys have increased from a B- to the B that was received this year.

One of the implied conclusions was that the University of Calgary was a better law school because it focused more on practical skills. While not knocking the U of C, Klar dismisses the argument that the U of A is less of a law school for teaching more theory. "Our approach is more on fundamental foundation courses. We have a very heavy core curriculum, heavier than most law schools," admits Klar. However, he makes no apologies about it, adding that he thinks that the law school is on the right track by teaching students how to best approach legal problems.

Is there too much emphasis on theory at the U of A?

Given the number one ranking of the University of

Calgary Law School due mainly to its emphasis on practical experience over theory, Cannons decided to informally survey a few 3rd year students and a couple of articling students to determine what the general opinion out there was. Here is what we found:

The 3rd years, with one exception, felt that they were well prepared for articling. Many students credited Student Legal Services with helping them put the theory learned into practice. Most felt that the theoretical approach was the right way to go as it taught them to think like a lawyer. The one exception said that there was too much theory, but that practical experience was available through moots and SLS if one were to seek it.

The articling students also felt well prepared. One student noted that "nothing really prepares you for the practice of law." The same student said, "In order to truly address a client's needs, you really have to have a firm understanding of the legal system and the fundamental principles it operates on...you can't get that anywhere but in school, and through some academically rigorous courses. For this reason, the U of A's emphasis on core courses is actually a good thing."

Klar doesn't think that it is reasonable to rank law schools based on the perception of former students. "I think the Canadian Lawyer takes a wrong approach, to purport to rank law schools by the grades given by their own graduates, said Klar. "It's like saying that if a student in class A gets a B, and a student in another class altogether gets a C, then one student is better than the other. The experience is totally different."

The ranking of law schools that received the same grade also grates on the Dean's nerves. Nine different schools received an overall grade of B, yet the survey ranks them from 4th to 14th. "They themselves [Canadian Lawyer] conceded that there is just statistical insignificant differences between these things," said Klar. The Dean does find some value in the responses alone taken

without the ranking. The Canadian Lawyer survey reveals that student perception of the U of A over the last four years has improved (see chart #2). "If you look at the scores since 1996, there is an improvement, not only in the overall grade, but also in the individual grades. So I guess that is the good news, that our students are actually ranking our law school better and better each year," said Klar.

Klar points out that there is a link between the overall ranking and the size of the student body. For example, the nation's four largest law schools, Montreal (982 students), Laval (974 students), Osgoode (912 students) and UBC (679 students) are rated 17th, 16th, 14th, and 19th respectively. The Dean attributes this to the closer atmosphere that is often generated by smaller law schools.

NEWS

APRIL 1999

The Law Students Newspaper

CBA Report Finds Racism in Legal System

by Andrew Bachelder (2L)

A Canadian Bar Association report claims that there is widespread discrimination within the Canadian legal profession. The report, entitled "Racial Equality in the Canadian Legal Profession", was presented to the CBA at its recent mid-winter meeting on February 27, 1999. Prepared by the CBA's Working Group on Racial Equality in the Legal Profession, the report makes 37 recommendations on eliminating or reducing racial discrimination, starting with admission to law school and going right up to the selection of judges.

The report states that people from "racialized" communities face deep seeded systemic discrimination in the legal profession which makes it difficult to progress or even enter the practice of law. The Working Group criticizes the heavy reliance by universities upon the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) and grades for determining who gets into law school.

"Grades and test-based policies do not take into account the paid work, the community work, the multiple language abilities, the cultural knowledge or the interests of an applicant," states the report. "We believe law schools must broaden their admissions policies and judge applicants on a range of criteria, which have been carefully examined to ensure that they do not inadvertently perpetuate racist assumptions."

The report claims that once students from racialized communities make it into law school, they encounter overt racism in the form of racist articles in the student newspaper, racist comments made by students, and the assumption that students from racialized communities are in law school because of a special program and that they are not as gifted as white students.

The discrimination in law school continues once a student graduates, the report states.

"During the working group's cross-country consultations, members were told of racist behaviour in law schools and the market place, of Aboriginal lawyers being treated as unwelcome intruders and of a system in which lawyers from racialized communities sometimes sense that their clients would stand a better chance with a white lawyer," said Benjamin Trevino, QC, co-chair of the working group.

"Our report looks briefly at some of the systemic barriers and notes a few of the ways that people and the institutions in which they work have found to eliminate these barriers or reduce their impact on people from racialized communities," Trevino said.

The report will be circulated among members of the CBA and the legal profession and debated at the CBA's Annual General Conference in Edmonton this summer.

University of Alberta Law School dean, Lewis Klar, says that while he is unaware of any discrimination at the law school, there are systems in place to deal with it should an incident occur. "The Dean is ultimately responsible for those types of issues," said

Klar. "I would certainly try to deal with it, but I would not preclude other options that the student could decide to pursue." Other options could include registering complaints under the Student Code of Conduct and speaking with the Ombudsman.

Law Games 2000 Controversy?!

by Dennis Schmidt (1L)

For those of you who haven't heard already, the University of Alberta lost out on its bid for Law Games 2000. The vote was close with the University of Ottawa beating us by one vote 6-5 (Dalhousie received 3 votes). The loss however, has not come without controversy. First there was the disappointment of finding out that UBC voted for Ottawa after impressions were given that it would be a western voting sweep in favor of U of A. The most surprising development however, was the finding that two pro-U of A voters, UVic and Western, could not get in on the conference call to place their votes. If all had been well we would have won 7-6 and would have avoided the headaches that were soon to follow.

Although the impression at Law Games 1999 was that many schools in Eastern Canada wanted to come to Edmonton for the first Law Games ever held west of the Great Lakes, a strong contingent in Ottawa was intent on hosting the games as well. This intent however, has led to even greater controversy that may well be in favor of the U of A. Since the vote came down in early March dissension has appeared in the ranks of the two law schools in Ottawa (English and French) that want to host the games. As a result of the disagreement, and the fact that two schools could not exercise their democratic rights, there will be a formal re-vote held on March 29th (perhaps by the time this article comes out we will know who won, and hopefully it's us!).

The headaches don't end there however, as the phenomenal fund-raising support (upwards of \$50,000) that Law Games 2000

President Dave Benjestorf generated before the first vote may have disappeared following the notification of all sponsors of our first voting loss. If we do win the next vote we will be in the awkward situation of having to go back to those sponsors to tell them that we are now in fact hosting the games and will need their support. As you can imagine going to these sponsors the first time was a daunting task in itself and going to them a second time won't be any easier. One thing is for certain however, if we do win the re-vote we will need all of your support, both as volunteers and competitors, to make this the best Law Games ever and to show all the law schools in Canada that we are not only one of the best in the country but that we can show them a great time as well.



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Detail: Cesare Maccari, *Cleopatra denounces Catilina*, 1882-1888, oil on canvas

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NEWS

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U of A Mooters Make Their Marks Across Canada

by Christine Mazur

As of deadline, five of the U of A's Moot teams have done their moods and are now settling down to study for finals. I talked to a few of the participants from the Gale, the Jessup, the Laskin, the Corporate/Securities Law Moot, and the Kawaskimhon Aboriginal Moot about their mooting experiences.

The Jessup - Feb. 18-21, Halifax, NS

U of A team:

**Ayla Akgungor
David Andrews
Cynthia Murphy
Mark Opgenorth**

The Jessup's topic was on Cultural Identity and Intellectual Property. Nineteen teams participated and U of A placed 15th, four places better than last year. Our team won a plaque for fourth place for best Memorial (the International Law Factum). Over all, U of Calgary won 1st place and McGill placed 2nd.

I spoke to Ayla and Dave who both said they had fun taking part in the moot. "It was really nice to meet people from other law schools," says Ayla, adding that it was interesting to discover that everyone else seems to have a Law Show/Beer and Skits/Talent Show event at their schools too.

The actual experience of preparing for the moot, however, was "not an experience to enjoy," according to Dave. The writing part took two weeks in the library, then the team spent reading week practicing the presentation 10 or 11 times over, under the guidance of Jamie Larkham, a lawyer with Lukas Bowker and White who did the Jessup twice as a student. "It was more work than we bargained for," says Ayla. After all the practicing, they got sick of it and didn't know what to expect at the actual competition. They were a bit nervous and wanted to do well.

Each pair mooted two rounds. Ayla and Dave faced the U of S and McGill. Dave couldn't help observing that some of the other schools seemed to take the approach that the primary focus is to win, an attitude that he feels may not necessarily be very beneficial to students. Both Ayla and Dave found, however, that the McGill team who beat them in their round, were "fun, good people" who deserved to win and did not have the "all win" attitude.

Ayla says that "at the end of the day, it's probably a worthwhile experience" though lots of hard work. Neither Dave nor Ayla would do it again, but they do recommend it to others. For this particular moot, Ayla suggests that taking the Public International Law course should probably be a requirement. Dave had not taken the course and found himself having to work harder to catch up to his team members who had.

As for exploring the beauti-

ful city of Halifax, the team members had two full days to sight-see. They saw the harbour and the Historic Properties, ferried across to Dartmouth, and attended Pub Night at the "Lower Deck." One memorable experience, however, was having the opportunity to meet Supreme Court of Canada Justice Beverly McLauchlin, who was the judge for the final round. Ayla describes her as "very polished and gracious," and finds it "amazing the way her mind works."

The Laskin - Feb. 24-28, Moncton, NB

U of A team:

**Blair Barbour
Laura Klassen
Anders Quist
Alicia Wendell**

The Laskin is a bilingual Appellate moot dealing with Administrative and Constitutional Law Issues. The team's advising lawyers were Professors DeCoste and Berry. The mooters were awarded points per individual performance which points were tallied to give the team its overall standing. As of the time I spoke to Blair, he had no idea where he placed, but knows that Anders placed 17th and Laura, the French-speaking team member, placed 20th out of 60 - odd mooters. Overall, the U of A team placed 6th, the highest ever in U of A history. McGill came in 1st place and gets its team-members' names inscribed on the Smith trophy (which permanently resides at the U of A). 2nd place was Osgoode, and 3rd was Dalhousie.

Blair says they had lots of fun and met quite a few people from Ontario and Quebec who were interested in public law, one of his pet interests. It was interesting also, to see the different ways in which the law schools prepare moot teams and have competitions.

The city of Moncton was very welcoming to the mooters and, according to Blair, "put up a really nice spread for us one night at the City Hall where the local Bar [Association] and Mayor welcomed us and gave us a nice wine and cheese."

Blair describes the town's main street as "pleasant" and "of course there was lots of churches and architecture that made the province quite interesting."

"We also visited PEI which we all found very quaint. We drove over the bridge and saw Province House where the BNA Act was penned by the Fathers of Confederation. We saw the legislative chambers, of course."

Blair would definitely recommend the moot to other students: "It's a lot of work, but when you're done and you look

back, it's extremely worthwhile, especially if one wants to be a litigator. The experience is extremely beneficial."

The Gale - Feb. 26-28, Toronto, ON

U of A team:

**Vivek Achuthan
Caroline Cox
Hanan Habib
Michelle McKay**

The Gale is a Constitutional Law moot, the question for which emerged from a criminal law case. The subject of debate was mostly *Charter* issues. The Gale is one of the more recently established Canadian moot competitions, but has quickly become one of the most prominent.

When I spoke to Vivek, he was not sure of where the team placed, but says it must be fairly high, somewhere between 6th and 8th. Each school comprises one team, made up of appellants and respondents, and each gets one opportunity to moot. The points are awarded to individuals based on performance and are then accumulated for the team total. Vivek and partner Hanan won their particular round, and Michelle and Caroline as respondents, won the award for best Factum for the entire moot. The Chief Justice Dixon medal is awarded to the best mooters of the competition at the discretion of the judges. McGill placed 1st over all.

This was Hanan's second time at the Gale, and Vivek says, "We really relied on her experience. She was fabulous." Referring to Caroline and Michelle's performances, Vivek says sheepishly, "Everybody was just fantastic - I think I was the weak link."

Hanan and Vivek mooted against Université de Montréal which was "just a fabulous experience. They were really friendly. They had a very professional attitude. It's the kind of attitude where you can argue against their position vigorously and still you can enjoy your time with each other afterwards."

The Quebec team mooted in French and Alberta mooted in English, but there were good translation facilities available. Vivek, however, knows a fair bit of French, and didn't rely on the translations very much. He explains that the legal terms sometimes are translated literally and don't have the same meaning and don't make as much sense.

Having the opportunity to moot in Osgoode Hall seems to have swept Vivek off his feet. In an attempt to describe it he quotes an old French Judge who once called it "A Palace of Justice." It is a beautiful old building, he says, and gives you a feeling "that you've accomplished something



Aboriginal Moot Speaking Circle

having the opportunity to argue your case there."

The Faculty had put the team up in a hotel right in downtown Toronto, so the team had a chance on their first day to explore Bay, Queen, and Yonge streets.

One special moment was having the opportunity to hear Supreme Court of Canada Justice Cory, one of the judges of the final round, speak. "He delivered a beautiful speech at our banquet dinner on the life and legacy of the late Chief Justice Brian Dixon - which was very moving and very informative at the same time. We didn't get to meet Justice Cory, but we did get to bask in his presence for a little bit. He's a very nice man."

Vivek would certainly recommend doing the moot to everyone. "It's a fantastic experience. I totally encourage anybody to try out. The basis of our whole mooting program, I think, is to maximize participation. I encourage anyone to try out at the Brimacombe round and even if you don't get on a team in 2nd year, definitely try to get on a team in 3rd year because, although it can be quite a workload and quite taxing over Christmas holidays, it's really rewarding in the end."

Corporate/Securities Law Moot - March 4-8, Toronto, ON

U of A team:

**Adam Henwood
Lloyd McLellan
John Marnier
Bill Wright**

The Corporate/Securities Law moot, recently established by Toronto business law firm Davies Ward and Beck, involved 10 participating schools arguing a Securities Law Problem. The team's advisor was Robert Roth who teaches Corporate Securities at the U of A, and is a practicing lawyer at Fraser Milner.

At the time I spoke to Lloyd, the team still didn't know how they placed as a team and were still awaiting individual results. Lloyd and partner Bill

mooted twice, once on each side of the problem, against UBC and Dalhousie. Adam and John did the same against Windsor and another team.

Lloyd says doing the moot was a good learning experience and made Securities Law more interesting than he had originally thought it was. He says, "I think you learn more from doing moots than any course in Law school," and would certainly recommend it if you want to learn. He emphasizes, however, that "It was a huge amount of work." The team had to do 10 practice moots as part of their preparation and were not nervous by the time the competition rolled around, but rather, "were relieved to finally be there."

Lloyd says they had a good time meeting the other schools and found it "kind of comforting" to know there were other people out there in law schools facing the same problems as them.

Kawaskimhon Moot - March 5-6, Edmonton, AB

U of A team:

**Martin Goldney
David Milward**

The Kawaskimhon (translating from Cree to English as "speaking with knowledge"), was hosted this year by the U of A Faculty of Law. This Moot takes a different approach to the whole idea of mooting, being a non-competitive event that is structured as a talking circle (thus, it did not take place in the moot court room, but rather in the more spacious room 105), where, on the first day, each team presents its factum for an allotted 20 minutes to half an hour. Four facilitators preside, and periodically interrupt the presenters to ask questions. The object of the circle is to try to reach a consensus, so during the second day of the moot, the teams work together to build a consensus on the issues. At this year's moot, according to U of A's Martin Goldney, the only consensus ultimately reached was that they

U of A Mooters Continues on page 4

NEWS

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UPDATE ON THIRD YEAR DESTINATION STATISTICS

by Carol Lawrence, Career Services Officer

As of March 18, 1999, 115 members (or 73%) of the 158 member third year class have advised me that they have articles or other confirmed employment following graduation. 39 members (or 25%) have advised me that they are still looking for articles. 4 members (or 2%) have not yet advised me of their status. These figures represent about a 5% increase in placement over this time last year.

As a number of positions, particularly at small firms, do not

arise until the period between now and this fall, I am confident that the third year students still looking for positions will find them. About 95-98% of our Class of 1998 has finalized positions. I invite any third year students who are still looking for employment, and who have not yet seen me, to do so.

I ask any third year students who have not yet advised me of their status, or who have had a change in their status since last contacting me, to speak to me

as soon as possible. My initial Destination List for the Class of 1999 (current to March 9, 1999), containing the names and destinations of those class members who have consented to having their information included in it, is available free of charge to third year students at the Distribution Centre. This list will be updated again late in April and periodically thereafter. Any grad wishing an update is invited to contact me.

LSA General Election Results

LSA President
Dave Benjstorf
LSA VP General
Tara Shaw
LSA VP Finance
Sandra Marrocco
LSA VP Academic
Vivek Achuthan
LSA VP External
Deepa Abraham
LSA VP Sports
Kate Clayton
LSA VP Social 2L
Chris Weibe
LSA VP Social 3L
Karen Wyke
LSA VP Services 2L
Jimmy Kidd
LSA VP Services 3L
Jarret Mymko
Law Faculty Council
2L - Kimberly Sacher
Fiona Beveridge
3L - Desmond Kary
Jummi Dimovski

Admissions Committee
Steph Kwok
Alumni Relations
2L - Bonnie Bokenfohr
3L - Dave Andrews
Curriculum Committee
Ryan DuRussell
Tricia Waddell
Jung Lee
Bonnie Bokenfohr
Equality and Respect Committee
Kevin Brosseau
Pat Heinsen
Visiting Speakers Committee
Helen Yoon
Amritra Fernandes
Perspectives Committee
Stacy Paul Healy
Meaghan Conroy
Fiona Beveridge
Rosie Zanin
Student Appeals
Dave Andrews
Steph Kwok
Sebastien Anderson
Articling Committee:
Chairperson
Christine Ferguson
Co-Chair
Kirsten Hartley
Treasurer
Shane King
Co-Treasurer
Colleen Dunlop
Grad 2001:
President
Carrie Todd
VP
Jimmie Duce
Treasurer
Marcy Kraft
Secretary
Colleen Dunlop
Members at Large
Christine Pasemko
Alison Denton

U of A Mooters

U of A Mooters Continued from page 3

could reach no consensus.

The topic debated consisted of three reference questions concerning the rights of Aboriginal peoples in Quebec within the context of Quebec's ascension to sovereignty. The third and "meatiest" question, as Martin describes it, was whether or not, under international law, the Aboriginal peoples of Quebec would be able to maintain their constitutional affiliation with Canada and their lands continue to be subject to Canadian jurisdiction, if Quebec were to vote in favour of secession from Canada, and then decide to declare its independence.

The eight teams participating were assigned to represent the various interested parties in the dispute. UBC represented the Government of Canada; U of C, the Grand Council of the Crees of Quebec; U of A, the Attorney General of Quebec; Windsor, the Assembly of First Nations; U of

S, the Attorney General of BC; Osgoode, the AG of Ontario, U of M, the Makivik Corp. (the body that represents the

Inuit of Quebec); and U of T the Six Nations Confederacy.

The facilitators for the moot were Toronto lawyer Jean Teillet, BC Lawyer June McCue, and Professors June Ross and Rob Normey. Also presiding was Elder Cecil Nepoche.

The U of A's team was under the guidance of coaches Cathy Bell, Moe Litman, and David Schniederman. Team members were not awarded points or places of standing against other teams but the individual participants were evaluated by their team's coaches, 50% for the factums and 50% for the oral presentation.

Martin says "It would be nice to get a ranking... but it's not critical." He thinks that on the whole the moot went well, judging by how his team did. He had the opportunity to catch a ride to

last year's Aboriginal Moot when it was held in Saskatoon, so he had an idea of what it would be like this year. However, he notes that the format of the way the moot is run changes from year to year depending on who hosts it.

Would he recommend the Aboriginal Moot to other students? "Absolutely," says Martin. The endeavour involved a fair bit of research and hard work, especially for the third question, which he says caused him to give himself a crash course in International Law regarding the Right to Self-Determination. He says it was fun meeting other students, however, and all participants were given a banquet in the Faculty Lounge where the keynote speaker was Alberta Senator Thelma Chalifoux. There was also traditional drumming, traditional dancing, and a special performance by National Métis Fiddling Champion Lee Mandeville.

Law Welcomes New Librarian

Kathryn Arbuckle has been appointed Law Librarian effective March 15, 1999. She has a B.A. (with distinction), Bachelor of Law, Master of Library Sciences and Master of Public Administration, all from Dalhousie University. Kathryn has been active in the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services (CASLIS) and its Atlantic Chapter, and in the Nova Scotia Government Libraries Council. She has served as departmental librarian for the Nova Scotia

Department of Education and Culture, with responsibilities for records management, Freedom of Information, Protection of Privacy (FOIPP), and the departmental library.

We would have liked to have included a photo of Kathryn so you could all recognize her in order to go up and welcome her, but it would seem that she's rather camera shy. Suffice it to say, Kathryn has a bright round face, a big warm smile, looks nice in purple and is very friendly, too!

CBA NEWS

Joe Sumiya (2L), Vice Chair, CBA

On behalf of the CBA membership I would like to thank all those who ran for positions in our executive election. They were all people whom I am sure would have been capable executives. I would like to welcome the new staff, and offer my congratulations. I look forward to working with all of you.

Pam Vidal - Vice Chair
Alicia McTavish - Secretary/Treasurer
Amanda Viner - Program Coordinator
Sharina Dhala - Social Convenor
Jeff Landmann - Member at Large

CBA members will be officially introduced to these fine people at our next and last meeting of the year. On Thursday March 25, we will have the honour of having Brian Beresh as our guest. The topic will be the Ewenchuk case, it should be fascinating. The sign up sheet is on our board across from under glass, I hope you can attend.

Our thanks go out to Tim Spelliscy, the News Director at ITV. Mr. Spelliscy gave an interesting and informative talk last month about Media and the Law. Some of the items of discussion included:

- *Defamation and libel in the news
- *The importance of legal advice to a media organization
- *Cameras in the courtroom
- *Publication bans
- *Releasing the names of sexual offenders
- *News and the Young Offenders Act

Thank you Mr. Spelliscy for speaking to us. I was a very enjoyable talk, and it was interesting to hear from your side of the issues.

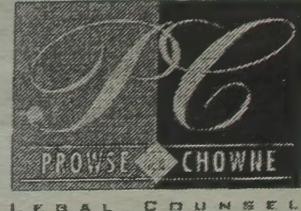
Environmental Law Students' Society

The ELSS is pleased to report that our "Environmental Green Day" on Sat. March 13th was a success, despite a modest turn-out at Hawreluk Park. Children abounded, people skated, and hot-dogs, (both veggie and carnivorous) were consumed in large amounts.

Plans for next year's activities include the Annual

September Used Booksale to take place the first week back, as well as various hiking expeditions to some of Alberta's endangered "Special Places." New members are always welcome to join.

Good luck on exams, everyone, and make sure you get yourselves outdoors this summer!



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NEWS

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APRIL 1999

STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES - FINAL THOUGHTS

Well, it's coming down to the end of the year, and about time for another SLS article for the Cannons. Since the new management committee has taken over, it has pretty much been smooth sailing and I would like to personally thank all of the 98/99 committee as well as the 99/00 committee for making the transition so easy. Special thanks also have to go out to Loret and Lori-Ann for their tireless efforts dealing with all of us jokers. Now for some brief SLS news.

The VAP over at Pins+Cues was very well attended and I hope that everyone had a great time. Thanks (or as Des says, "kudos") to all of the volunteers, the donors of all the great prizes, and those who attended, for making it such an event. Speaking of volunteers, I would like to thank all of you for your support of SLS. I know at times this can be a thankless and tiresome job, but we really are appreciative of the effort you put in. Now, a few words from each of our project coordinators.

Civil Office Des Kary

Outstanding Files - It's important, as a reminder, for those of you who still have files outstanding, to return them ASAP with a memo outlining what has happened and any significant dates or facts. These will be re-distributed to the summer staff - if it's not

closed and you really want the file back in September, let me know in the memo.

Future Dayleaders - For those of you who are interested in becoming dayleaders for the fall in the civil/family office please let me know - you can always leave me a note at EMH as well as a number that you can be reached at during the summer.

Edmonton Institution - Despite a few difficulties at the start, including a strike by the federal employees, we were able to attend the prison regularly. Thanks to all who signed up and especially those who drove (you can submit an expense form for the gas). Just a reminder that the prison clearance forms are sent only in September, so for those of you who are interested in going next year it's important to get the clearance forms in right away in September.

Overall, a special thanks to all the volunteers and dayleaders. I hope the experience has been educational, interesting and rewarding. Thanks as well to Professor Hopp for all his hard work, help and sage advice.

Criminal Project Erin McCoy Hayden Ebborn

There have been some exciting changes and additions to the

criminal project this year. Corona has increased its office space by two new rooms and has had a major facelift thanks to the hard work of some caseworkers and our advising lawyer Larry Anderson. Thanks to all of this work we have new desks, chairs and bookshelves to grace our newly painted and carpeted office space. We have added a new afternoon shift at Emily Murphy House and thanks to Simon Foxcroft and Curtis Serra and their caseworkers who have managed to keep it running despite changing class schedules and the like!

During the summer we will be launching a pilot project based at the courthouse in Stony Plain, Alberta where SLS will have office hours on a weekly basis to provide legal services specifically to Aboriginal persons who require our assistance. We are hoping to maintain this project throughout the year, providing both criminal as well as civil services.

We would like to bid a fond farewell to two extremely competent criminal coordinators. Thanks to Hanan Habib and Curtis Serra, whose hard work and excellent management skills have left large shoes to fill. We will miss you guys!

Thanks to all the criminal volunteers who have donated their time and skill to the SLS criminal project. All your hard work has kept the criminal project a very strong project and has maintained its good reputation for providing competent criminal advocacy.

Legal Education/Reform Project Sarah Heynen

The Legal Education/Reform Project had a very successful year in 1998-99. This is due in large part to the commitment of its many volunteers to the diversity of its projects.

Kara Johnstone, the Coordinator of the project from September to December, did a terrific job in setting the project up for the year. She successfully recruited enough volunteers competent to withstand the onerous demands of this Project. From the resilience required to deal with junior high school students in our mock-trial/lecture program, to the stamina necessary to endure the late hours spent roving the inner city streets in the Crossroads van, our committed crew of volunteers were up to their tasks.

For those of you bold enough to test your strength next year, I urge you to consider day-leading a Legal Ed shift. Our outreaches are varied and include; inner city drop-in centers, a school for pregnant teens, late-night needle exchanges, and much more.

We even venture beyond that safe zone between the Law Centre and EMH and extend ourselves to the student community at SUB.

If an entire semester at the front lines seems daunting, consider our mock-trial/lecture program. These are scheduled as

need arises and this year, we certainly had enough sessions scheduled to accommodate interest in the program. So, if you miss those carefree days of junior and senior high school and want a little reminding of how far you have come, this is the project for you.

Finally, my sincere thanks to everyone involved in the Legal Ed project this year. Have a great summer off.

Family Law Project Béla Berze

In addition to sharing the management of files in the civil/family office, the Family Law Project is responsible for the Do Your Own Divorce Clinics (DYOD) and the Women's Shelter Outreaches to Lurana and Wings. Both of these services are important in providing valuable information that SLS principals rely on. The DYOD and the shelter outreaches were a huge success because of the commitment and strong attendance of volunteers throughout the school term. Thank you to all the volunteers and our advising lawyer Laurie Trahan.

Well, that is all from SLS for this year. Thanks again everybody for your support and remember to sign up for volunteer work next year. We can't run this place without your commitment and support.

John Piasta,
Executive Coordinator

CAREER SERVICES UPDATE

by Carol Lawrence, Career Services Officer

With the academic year winding to a close I would like to update students on various matters relevant to their search for summer and articling employment, and their commencement of articles, over the next few months.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT: I expect to receive a few more postings for summer employment between now and early May. I will, of course, e-mail you about these notices and post them under glass.

ARTICLING HIRING - SECOND YEAR STUDENTS: The following is an update about articling dates and deadlines coming up over the summer.

In Edmonton, several of the major firms still intend to finalize an agreement which contemplates that interviews will begin on May 31, 1999 and offers will be made beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 14, 1999. This is the case even though some firms have already hired or are in the process of doing so. By the time this article is published you should have seen at least one notice from me providing details of this agreement and the firms participating in it. However, anyone with

any questions on this matter is invited to contact me. Any of the firms whose application deadlines change from those set out in the Articling Handbook, or who decide not to hire in accordance with the above schedule, have been asked to let me know. Any such changes will be communicated to students by posting and e-mail.

With respect to **Calgary** recruiting, most of you will have already seen the information under glass on this year's Calgary matching program and the firms participating in it. Students wishing to apply to the match firms should pick up a "Request for Student Agreement Package" form from outside my office and submit it to National Matching Services as soon as possible in order to have their names registered in the match.

Not all Calgary firms hire through the match, though, and you should check the Articling Handbook, the postings, and make your own inquiries of firms for other articling opportunities.

Students who are applying to **Edmonton** and **Calgary** firms with application deadlines on or about May 15, 1999 may wonder what to do about providing their **second term grades**. I suggest that you attempt to provide those grades (or as many of them as are

available) to firms by their deadlines or as soon as possible thereafter. Although official grades will not be available until later in May, transcripts containing unofficial second term grades can be obtained from the Registrar's office within a day or two of the grades being posted on the pink sheets here at the law school. The Grade Reporting Service implemented last year by the Registrar's office will enable students with Internet access to check on their grades daily, starting in early April.

With respect to **Vancouver** recruiting, the Law Society of B.C. will, by the end of April, be prescribing a date in late August by which all articling offers made by downtown Vancouver firms must remain open for acceptance. Several of these firms are expected to agree to conduct interviews during the week immediately prior to that date. When I am advised of the exact date, I will e-mail and post a notice concerning it. I expect to receive a copy of the UBC Articling Handbook soon, which contains B.C. firm information that provides a good supplement to that contained in our own Articling Handbook. When I do, I'll let everyone know by e-mail and posting. I and the Articling Committee also have several Vancouver firm brochures for viewing in our offices.

As to **Toronto** hiring, you will also have seen the information under glass about the Toronto matching program. Again, those interested in participating in it should pick up a "Request for Student Agreement Package" from my office and send it to National Matching Services. I have recently received a set of several Ontario law firm surveys and a copy of the U of T Articling Handbook, which supplement our Articling Handbook well and which you are welcome to look at in my office. I and the Articling Committee also have several Ontario firm brochures for viewing.

Important Note: I expect to be in receipt of notices from firms recruiting for 2000 - 2001 articling positions over the balance of the school term and into the summer months. I will post these notices under glass and will send detailed e-mails to second year students advising them of the content of the postings. You are advised to check these things periodically over the summer.

ARTICLING HIRING - THIRD YEAR STUDENTS: I will continue to seek out, and expect to receive, notices from some firms

during the balance of the school term and over the summer for 1990-2000 articling positions. I will post all such notices and will also provide details of them by e-mail to students who my records show are still looking for articles. The University issued e-mail addresses will be in effect for six months after the third year's departure from the school, but graduates who wish me to contact them through a different e-mail address or by phone are asked to let me know. Third year still looking for articles are also invited to see me for advice and guidance on their articling search. This might include a review, or further review, of their resume and cover letter, a discussion on strategy and interview suggestions. As some firms hire without posting their positions, I suggest that students not only wait for notices from me but continue with their own inquiries of firms.

BEGINNING ARTICLES IN ALBERTA: Third year students will have seen my notices to pick up the registration form for the Alberta Bar Admission Course from outside my office. The deadline for registration was March 15, 1999, however, those who missed the

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OPINIONS, EDITORIALS

APRIL 1999

The Law Students' Newspaper

Forth-right Views'

by Deans Lewis Klar, Rod Wood, Linda Reif

As we approach the end of term, this column gives us the opportunity to wish you all the best of luck with your exams. We would also like to bring you up to date as to some of the major happenings at the Faculty.

A big piece of news is the appointment of our new Head Law Librarian, Professor Kathryn Arbuckle. Professor Arbuckle comes to us from Nova Scotia. She is a graduate of Dalhousie Law School and a member of the Bar of Nova Scotia. She has degrees in Law, Library Science, and Public Administration, and extensive experience in libraries and technology. If you have the chance, please drop by the library and say hello to Professor Arbuckle. I am sure she would love to meet you.

Another exciting development is the appointment of Professor Tim Caulfield to both the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Medicine. Professor Caulfield is currently the Research Director of the *Health Law Institute*. Tim has also recently received a three year renewal of his Alberta Heritage Foundation For Medical Research grant.

Our fund raising efforts continue to bring good news. The latest gift is a \$150,000 donation from the *Bennett Jones* law firm.

All Apologies... and Thank-Yous

by Christine Mazur, Co-editor (2L)

On behalf of the Cannons staff, I'd like to thank all of this year's contributors for giving their time and talent to the paper, and for putting up with Andrew and I chasing after them to hand their stuff in on time.

I know that in the rush and flurry of meeting deadlines, we missed a few things like several articles that were supposed to go in last issue, and the horrific misspelling of Naomi Nind's name, which I missed in last issue's final edit. Sorry Naomi! There. Spelled it right twice to compensate. Apologies to those who felt missed by the non-appearance of their names in print. Okay, Stan??

To those generous contributors who place ads in our paper, I wish to express my deepest and most sincere thanks because, quite frankly, we wouldn't be able to publish without you!

Many thanks, finally, to you our classmates and alumni who are our readership. We always appreciate your comments and welcome letters and feedback.

Have a good summer and see you in the fall!

This donation, which will be added to by additional donations from individual members of *Bennett Jones* who are graduates of our Faculty, will create an endowment fund to assist law students in the purchase of text books. This gift follows a recent donation of \$50,000 from the law firm of *Ogilvie & Company*.

The Winter Semester saw some very enjoyable social events. There was the *Alberta Law Review* annual dinner, the *Carbolic*, and the *Graduation Formal*. These were all superbly organized by our students and very much enjoyed by those who attended. Thanks for your hard work!

Our students have been mooting all over the country and at home. The Faculty of Law organized the National Aboriginal Moot, and the Western Canada Trial Moot. Thanks to Brad Enge and Professor Ron Hopp for their great efforts, and to all the Faculty and students who helped out. A special thank you to Mr. Justice Phil Clarke who spent three full days judging the Western Canada Trial Moot. Although we are proud of all our mooters, we should note that we had some nice successes this year. Mooters Michelle MacKay and Caroline Cox received the award for the

Best Factum in the Gale Cup Moot. Our Laskin Moot team of **Blair Barbour, Laura Klassen, Anders Quist, and Alicia Wendell** finished Sixth overall - our best finish ever. Our Jessup team of **Ayla Akgungor, David Andrews, Cynthia Murphy and Mark Opgenorth** won Fourth for their Memorial. Thank you students, coaches, and practice judges for the tremendous job!

Our new **Association of Alumni and Friends of the Faculty of Law** has been busy planning activities for the upcoming months. In the works are a co-sponsored lunch for third-year students, a reception at this summer's national Canadian Bar Association meeting which is being held in Edmonton, and a welcoming reception for next year's first year students. All graduates are members of the Association, and we look forward to their leadership and active participation.

We are also delighted that a new student organization, the **International Law Students Association** has had a very successful inaugural year. We would like to congratulate Co-Chairs **Amritra Fernandes and Tim Patterson** for their initiative and hard work.

To Cannons:

Sixteen teams participated at this year's Laskin, which was held in Moncton last Thursday through Sunday. The best our school has ever done - prior to this year - was 8th place (though we have, on several occasions, taken home hardware for best oralist and runner-up). Please then join Graeme and myself, in congratulating our 1998 Laskin Team which placed 6th overall in this year's competition. The team was composed of Blair Barbour, Anders Quist, Laura Klassen, and Alicia Wendell.

Thanks,
F.C. DeCoste
Faculty of Law
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Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2H5

Careers

Careers Continued from page 5

deadline can still register. It will also be necessary for students to apply to the Law Society for registration as a student-at-law. Application packages for this will be available in mid April and I will be sent several sets. When they are in, I will let students know. Before obtaining a set from me, though, students should check with their firms as many firms get packages directly from the Law Society and contact their incoming students about them. When available, packages can also be obtained directly from the Law Society in Calgary by calling 1-800-661-9003. The required forms, documents and fees must be provided to the Law Society on or before the first day of articles. Students beginning their articles prior to receiving their degree parchment must ask the Dean's office to fax a letter to the Law Society after the May marks

approval meeting, confirming that a degree will be issued.

REACHING ME OVER THE SUMMER: I will be at the law school during most of the summer months. My current office hours will continue through to April 30, 1998. After that, I will not be maintaining any set office hours but invite students to call or e-mail me at any time during the summer and we can either communicate that way or arrange an appointment. My phone number is 492-7305, my e-mail address is clawrenc@law.ualberta.ca and my office is in Room 474.

I wish everyone success in their upcoming exams, employment search and articles.

CANNONS OF CONSTRUCTION

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Cannons of Construction is published four times a year by the students of the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta. Opinions expressed in Cannons are the opinions of the writers themselves and may not necessarily be the opinions of Cannons staff. Cannons staff, who are under a lot of pressure these days because of the recent hike in tuition fees coupled with the resumption of the seal hunt in Newfoundland, are not responsible for whatever mayhem, holy wars, natural disasters, chaos in the universe, or wrath of God, that may result from articles in this paper. Please direct all law suits to the Executive of the Law Show, who get way more mail than we do and are so busy with the show that they may mistake a suit against Cannons for a suit against them.

FABS, S.A.P.P.s & "Nobody"

by Anne Onymous (2L)

The joint Grad 2000 Law & Education Faculty FAB that took place in January was, to put it quite simply, a bust. It'll go down in memory as the worst FAB of this school year, (the Law Show FAB of last semester being a close runner-up). If this joint venture seemed extremely disorganized - that's because it was. There were a token total of (and don't let this surprise you)... two Education students. This was exceptionally hard on the male law students who were expecting to "score" with young nubile female Ed students. (Let's not even get into what a ridiculous idea that was.)

Who's to blame for this awful FAB? Well, the Grad Committee of course denies any responsibility. They point the finger at the Ed students. Their explanation is that "The Ed students bailed on us." Hence, no DJ. Hence, no education students. And hence that awful second-rate "dating game" which we were all forced to endure. (Next time spare us the agony and tell the dudes to keep their shirts on!) Granted the Ed students bear some fault here, but it still doesn't explain the unexceptionally low turnout by the second years. It is after all, our grad and therefore in our best interests to support it. Even the third years (often criticized for having no law school spirit) had a better turn-out last year.

So, what went wrong? Begin by reflecting upon who makes up the Grad Committee. By large, the committee is made up of a very tight knit group of friends, otherwise known as S.A.P.P.s - self appointed popular person(s).

(If you're not a S.A.P.P., then you are a "nobody"; a person of inferior standing and the favourite subject of gossip and ridicule among the S.A.P.P.s) S.A.P.P.s were the ones who attended the FAB. They were the ones who were "cool" and "funny" enough to participate in the dating game. So "nobody" wanted to show up.

The S.A.P.P.s' vision of grad will be exactly that - their vision. They have been running the law school to the exclusion of the rest of the 2L student body. Consider the 2L Carbolic Video - yet another instance of successful alienation by S.A.P.P.s. Many people were disgruntled about the posting of a "You have been selected to star" List. If you didn't make that list, you were probably a "nobody". (Apparently, only S.A.P.P.s are blessed with the talents of acting.) As a nobody, count yourself lucky because the whole shower-coffee thing was utterly distasteful.

S.A.P.P.s are a pervasive part of law school society. Their names and faces may change, but there will always be others to take their place. As for the rest of us, it's the end of second year and we're surviving. Our motto: "nobody" gives a f\$%k what S.A.P.P.s think, do and say, anyhow.

The name of the author has been withheld by request (for obvious reasons). The opinions voiced in this article are not necessarily those of the editors or Cannons staff. Every law student is welcome to speak his or her mind, so long as it is not so offensive as to make us want to run away and hide. - Eds.

FEATURES

The Law Students Newspaper

APRIL 1999

Law Kids Speak

What the Children of Law Students Think of Law Stuff

by Christine Mazur (2L)

If you haven't yet noticed, quite a few of our colleagues have children (one of our editors included - three, in fact), and children, being the observant little people they are, always seem to have a different point of view of the world from adults. This investigative reporter set out to discover what the children of law students think about their parents being in law school and what they think about the legal profession in general.

Madeleine (4) and Zach (8) Cho, left family and friends in Richmond, B.C. to move to Edmonton with their parents so their dad, Rick Nielsen (2L), could study law.

What do lawyers do? Maddie doesn't know, but Zach says, "They go to court. They defend people." As to whether or not Dad's being a lawyer will change their lives at all, Zach says, addressing his dad, "you're going to go like every night or every day." Maddie shares her opinion of her father's study habits: "I know what I hate! When he goes to school for a long time till it's very late."

The children have had some exposure to lawyers in the media as in TV's *Law and Order*. Rick is clearly surprised that they have seen the show. "When do you watch that?" he asks. Zach explains, "Just when I flip the channels."

"And what do you think of it?"

"Nothing."

Maddie pipes up, "I think it's stupid!"

"Why?" asks her father.

"It's boring," says Zach, "I don't understand any of it."

During exams, the children don't get to play with Dad very much. Zach reveals the awful truth about Rick's study habits: "Whenever we go to soccer games we can see when he's doing his reading homework" instead of watching the game. Maddie rises to Dad's defense: "No, he watches you play sometimes!"

"Thank-you!" says Rick. "I don't read while you're on the field - I read while someone else is on the field and you're on the bench." Zach is indignant. "I see you reading when I'm on the field!"

As to whether Dad tries to teach them things he learns in school, Zach answers, "No, but once he did, like batteries and stuff." Maddie informs us about Dad's Law Show participation: "Y'ow what and he let him read his show thing - Lawyer Man!"

"What?" The reporter is confused.

Maddie explains, "Lawyer Man for the show."

Rick played the role of Legal Man in the Law Show and apparently rehearsed at length with the help of the children.

Neither child wants to be a lawyer when they grow up. Zach wants to be a cartoonist, though when once asked to draw, for a

school assignment, a picture of what he wanted to be at age 18, he drew himself standing in front of the law building. Zach insists, however, "That's all I thought about. That's the first thing that came to my mind. I really want to be a cartoonist and an artist. Not a lawyer at all."

Maddie has a number of career choices in mind: "A firefighter, a doctor...be a zoo keeper," not zookeeper. Other possibilities are "...a builder - that builds houses."

Rick is amused: "Well the word 'lawyer' never comes to mind for you, does it? Although I

of papers and his office is probably very messy," says Lauren.

What else does dad do? Brent knows: "Be a rugby player?" Lyle plays for the Law Faculty's Golden Bearstirs Rugby team.

The children have not seen any lawyer movies or TV shows, but Lauren knows her dad has, "Lawyer, Lawyer - Liar, liar - oops!"

What's the first thing that comes into their heads when they think about lawyers? "They get into trouble with judges," says Lauren. Her Dad is surprised. "Really?"

"And what else?"

"And a lawyer."

Dad sometimes teaches them some of the things he's studying, like *Res ipsa loquitur*, "Whatever that means," says Lauren.

"To help dad remember we often learn Latin maxims," says Lyle, "I practiced my factum on them."

They have heard some lawyer jokes, "mostly taught by dad," says Lauren.

"Liar, liar pants on fire, couldn't get off the telephone wire!" Brent exclaims. Lauren confesses she learned that one at school and taught it to her brother.

The transition from pre-law-school life with children to law-school life with children was really not that difficult, says Lyle. He explains, "I think it's a huge misconception. I mean, most people who are sort of white collar professional people work 10 - 12 hour days if they're trying to get ahead anyways and then I was running a small business and my hours were sort of 10 - 12 hour days albeit I had a lot of flexibility - I could pick and choose the times that I worked so from that perspective in terms of long hours, I don't think it's going to change very much. It's going to be less flexible during the day."

While he speaks, Lauren makes gestures with her hands to indicate "blah, blah, blah..." Lyle finally notices. "Dad talks a lot, doesn't he."

"You know why?" says Lauren, "It's good for your health because when you become a lawyer that's gonna really be handy in court."

What's their favorite thing to do in Edmonton?

"To see you," Lauren tells her dad.

Justin, age 6, thinks of lawyers as being superheroes, or so it would seem. His perception of what a lawyer does is that a lawyer "Protects the city."

Since his mom, Bonnie Boken Fohr (L) was working daily before starting law school, he still thinks of her as going to work everyday, not school. Does she tell him about her classes?

"Not really," he replies. Bonnie says otherwise. "I do so."

Bonnie explains, "Sometimes when he's lying in bed he'll yell out 'what are you reading now?' So I'll sit on the couch and I'll explain. One day he asked and I was reading Pearson and Post about the fox so it was kind of a fun case to explain. 'What did the judge say?' He got quite excited about what the answer was. Sometimes I'll talk about the cases that I'm learning."

Justin remembers the conversation. "Mom, what was that answer again?"

Bonnie thinks a moment. "Oh-oh. I can't remember... the person who caught it was the one

who had it, not the one who was chasing it."

Justin knows his mom writes exams and that at exam time, he doesn't get to see her very much. He thinks it's going to be "pretty cool" when mom graduates and becomes a lawyer. He does not want to be a lawyer when he grows up, but rather has a liking for computers.

Bonnie is lucky she was able to plan her class schedule around Justin's school. She says, "The faculty's not really... they say you can't do it but they were very helpful, only in that somebody came on the same day almost 10 minutes before me wanting to change to an earlier section and I wanted to change to a later section.

So because we came at the same time and had timetables that we wanted from each other we were able to switch. So I was very happy that they changed that for me. It would have been quite impossible to do it with my old schedule. But this was there's only two mornings a week that I have to be at school before he starts."

Justin is no stranger to campus life, since his mom's been going to school most of his life, as did his dad when he was small, and as does his Aunt Monica (2L). "It's always been such a part of his life," Bonnie says.

Justin's never been to court but Mom promises to take him soon. "Remember in the car the other day and you asked me if we had a court in Edmonton? Do you remember what you said Justin?" She tries to jog his memory as he flies a space-ship toy around the room.

"I said mmm... Do we have a court?"

"And I said yes. And then you asked if we could go watch one day. And we haven't gone yet. We're going to go with Auntie [Monica] one day. Just to see the court buildings. Nothing too crazy."

"Like a crime?"

"You won't see the crime but the after-effects," says the interviewer.

"Yes, we'll get to see the criminals," adds Mom.

"We will?"

"Yeah. That's why people go to court."

"Okay, make sure for me to find a rocket launcher."

"Oh, you don't need to be worried. People go to court because they disagree about things too. It doesn't make them bad people. Or scary."

So much for the little people. Older children of law students have a slightly different perspective of the legal profession that adults don't always share. Here's what the teenaged daughter of one of our colleagues has to say about life with a parent in law school and what it means to her:



*Children of a Hard-working Law Student:
Res ipsa loquitur—yes they are adorable.*

think you'd be an excellent little lawyer. Very logical young lady."

Maddy shakes her head emphatically. "A teacher," she says.

Lauren (7) and Brent (5) are Lyle Brooks' (2L) "little guys." They live in Edson but are with him on weekends and he drives out to see them and take them swimming on Wednesdays. He explains his going to law school doesn't change how often he sees his kids. His classes are scheduled around the times he sees them, he explains, because they come first.

What do Lauren and Brent know about lawyers? Lauren knows that "they jab a lot in court. And they drink lots of coffee."

"And they work lots" says Brent.

"And work on lots and lots

"Yeah," she says, "And dad is one."

The difference between what you do as a law student and what you do as a lawyer is, according to Lauren, that lawyers "jab more in court cause you practically know more."

Lauren doesn't know what she wants to be when she grows up, but she most certainly knows she doesn't want to be a lawyer. Why not? "I don't like to talk a lot and I don't want to stand up to judges." Her dad notes that she reads an awful lot, but she insists that "Just because you read an awful lot doesn't mean you have to become a lawyer and stand up to judges."

Brent tells his Dad that when he grows up he wants to be "Same as you."

"What am I?"
"A rugby player."

FEATURES

APRIL 1999

The Law Students Newspaper

Visitors Among Us: Meet the International Students

by Perbeen Mann (2L)

In case you haven't noticed, there are some new faces at school: Michelle McCabe, Emma Morrow and Stian Ekornaas Beck.

Michelle is a visiting student from The University of Wollongong, Australia. She has an Honour's degree in Mathematics and is in the second year of her Law Program. She has one more year to go before graduating. When asked why she chose to study abroad, she explained, "I was sick of home and wanted to go somewhere, do something different but didn't want it [the experience] to be much of a culture shock." When asked how she was adapting, she laughed and stated, "It's been much more [shocking] than I had thought. The weather is a big shock and initially, I had problems understanding Canadians and them understanding me". Despite this dissatisfaction, Michelle was quick to point out, "I absolutely love it here."

Emma is also from Australia, visiting from the University of South Wales, Sydney. She is pursuing a combined degree in sciences and in law.

As to why she decided to study in Alberta, Emma explained, "It was choosing between B.C. and the rain or Alberta and the snow. And the snow won. I just love it (the snow)...It was a bit shocking though when I arrived at the airport. It was like 40 degrees when I had left Australia and minus 19 when I arrived. All I had on was a t-shirt and jeans and the people who came to pick me up were like, 'you need a jacket.' I went out and bought one the very next day." As for what she'll miss the most, Emma had this to say: "I love it here and the snow. I don't want to go home. It's all coming to an end just when I was getting to know people and make friends. So, it's kind of sad."

Stian is a visiting student from the University of Oslo, Norway (for those of you who did not know, Oslo is the capital of Norway). Stian put in two years of military service before embarking on his legal education. He is in the sixth and final year of his law program. (Can you imagine studying law for six years?) Like Michelle, Stian decided to come to Canada, "...to meet different people. To

do something out of the ordinary." He explained, "I heard a lot of good things about Canada and its people and so I thought why not?" (When asked why he did not go to the United States, he offered little in the way of details but stated that it had something to do with two American girls he met in a youth hostel while travelling in Europe a few years ago.)

Michelle, Emma and Stian are only here for another month. For those of us who had an opportunity to get to know them, we'll miss them. Personally, I'll miss the late night dancing fiascos with Michelle, incurring injuries while snowboarding with Emma, and Stian's sense of humour. If you haven't had a chance, please do introduce yourselves. You have no idea as to what you've been missing in terms of an "international" experience.

Law Kids

Law Kids Continued from page 7

When my Mom was first accepted into law school, one of the first things that popped into my mind, was 'we're going to be rich!' But I felt happiness for her because I know that she was entering a stage where she was doing something that was important to her and something that she really wanted to do.

Since my mom has been in law school, I have definitely seen a lot less of her. On the weekends, we try to spend as much time together as we can because we know that it has to pretty much last us the week. I find that spending time together now means a lot more than it used to and we cherish it a lot more.

I personally do not have any thoughts of becoming a lawyer after seeing how many long

hours a day you have to spend working and how you have to put your social life on hold. I think that to be a lawyer, requires lots of patience, knowledge and hard work. Being a lawyer would be quite interesting in many ways because you get different cases that deal with a variety of topics. There will be some that you feel strongly about and you will be able to express your feelings on this topic. You also will know that you did all that you could to deal with issues that will change people's lives.

As I have already mentioned, I am very happy that Mom is getting to do what she wants and I hope that she has an exciting and successful career. I know that I can't wait for her to be done law school and for her to live a normal life again.

Last blood of Sincerity

Flog him till he bleeds,

Till he bleed no more,

Let not pity nor compassion enfeeble your resolve.

Doubt not the merchants resolve,

Corruption is but a glance away,

Doubt not the merchants device,

For dissolution is but from within.

Pity him none,

Marvel him not.

-by Anser Farooq

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FEATURES

The Law Students Newspaper

APRIL 1999

The Cooking File

Karen Wyke (2L) and Katy Stewart (2L)

Urgent: 2Ls this is your last chance to share your recipes with the world, but if you'd rather have them sit in an old drawer and gather dust, while deprived chefs everywhere bemoan your selfishness, I guess that's your decision. For those of you who were brought up well, the submissions envelope will be on the Cannon's door until April 30th.

Katy's Column

It seems, my friends, that spring has finally arrived (because I live in Alberta I spin around three times, throw salt at Karen, and jump on wood tables when I say that, because baby - I've seen snow in July). In any event, spring is here for now, just in time to pull on your sweatpants, throw out your toothbrush, buy a bag of chocolate coffee beans and create a hibernation den for the onslaught of exam madness. Before Karen and I retire to our own respective lairs we'd like to leave you with one last culinary review. Today's choice: our own native son, *The Gavel*.

Never short on a basically warm cup of coffee and a free smile, *The Gavel* is the heart of our institutional vessel. It can satisfy any beverage need, except booze, and I hear Dave Benestorf, our incumbent LSA President, is trying to make that happen. That was a joke. Dave's election promises were much more enlightened than that, and I think that inflatable Prof. idea is really going to fly. Oh no sorry, that was Vivek's platform. I digress. My personal never-miss-favorite at *The Gavel* is that little Mexican chicken tortilla number; it puts a spring in my step every time. I also appreciate the fact that unlike the #@%&* Java Jive, *The Gavel* always has a fresh pot of Irish Cream coffee brewing.

Karen's Column

Spring, summer, winter, fall, rain and shine, there stands *The Gavel*. (Okay, you're right, it's not open in summer, and is closed for part of winter and spring - but it's always there in the autumn - good ol' reliable autumn.) When it's open, it is a favorite haunt for law students of all years. The ambiance - warm, yet lively. The service - warm, yet lively. The soup - warm, yet lively. (You get the picture!)

Three things bring me to *The Gavel*: coffee, Angela's magnificent sub sandwich for \$2.73 and licorice (mmmm.... licorice). I start my day (when I actually have to be here before noon) with a hot cup of Irish cream coffee - "it's the top of my mornin'" (for all of you who didn't get that - it was an attempt at a corny Irish joke). My next stop in *The Gavel* will be for a world famous sub. Never go for the round bun - you get way more on the sub (not that I've given it much thought). I've heard students flock from all corners of campus to watch the true sandwich master at work. I generally go for the veggie sub on brown - fully loaded. One sandwich can satisfy the recommended yearly intake of olives and hot peppers - Angela's not shy! With all the toppings piled on, I maintain that the veggie sub is the best value on campus. And for dessert or an afternoon snack - the best damn licorice you ever did eat (how can you review licorice - it's good, it's sweet, it's low fat, and it's only 16 cents!). There finishes another day of good eating. All thanks to *The Gavel*.

Cheers to *The Gavel*, may it continue to serve disgruntled law students long after we've all had career related heart attacks.

Good luck on your exams, and may your summer be full of culinary (and other) delights!

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Embarrassment and Education: Those Who Have Gone on Before...

by: Loney Ziakris (2L)

Soon after entering the cloistered halls of higher learning a.k.a. law school the stories of unimaginable horror began to waft through the air and into my ears. No, there were no audible screams emanating from the walls of the Law Centre (thankfully) but the pain from those who had gone on before was nonetheless real. Of course, I am speaking about those who were articling in local firms (just in case some of you were thinking I was referring to the CBA's annual tour of the morgue). Endless (14-16 hr.) work days. Not so much compensation. Slave-like assignments. Occasional bread and water.

So is this all an exaggeration? Maybe, I haven't been there so I don't know. My cousin, who is presently articling, and a close friend who is now an associate in a Vancouver firm, both confirm the above descriptions of life as the smallest of kahunas is indeed treacherous, so I set to find out if those who articed in the days of yesteryear had similar experiences.

First up: Professor DeCoste, who informed me that there was nothing at all memorable about his articling year. Upon further reflection, however he did manage to point out that which he considered to be most degrading. Every fall the firm planned a getaway weekend to Sylvan Lake, which mostly consisted of smoking cigars, drinking, and playing golf (much like El Hacko).

His job, as an articling student, was to drive around the golf course in a cart, with beverages and sandwiches, to meet the needs of the esteemed lawyers. Next most degrading to our esteemed professor was the fact that at the annual firm get-together, articling students were required to perform a musical which had the purpose of providing easy occasion for the derision of the students. Lastly, and this seems a common refrain, there was the weekly requirement that students arrange for the catering of food and booze to the weekly social. Great training for a law professor, says DeCoste.

Focusing more on the ac-

tual work aspect of the job is Professor Ziff. He is proud of the fact that he survived his articling year without ever owning a briefcase; rather he transported materials in plastic bags from Dominion Grocery stores. His experience was highlighted by what he refers to as a particularly "boneheaded" incident. His firm, which was located in Toronto, sent him to Hamilton to close a deal involving the sale of transportation equipment; Ziff believed this to be purely a paper transaction and as such decided that there was no need to bring along the cheque for the sale - he was somewhat embarrassed and elicited a predictable response from his boss upon calling back to the office to explain what had happened.

Of course, there are as many articling stories as there are people in the legal profession - the thing to remember is that most of them seem to have survived the ordeal and now subscribe to the theory that that which does not kill you will only make you stronger. One can always hope.

A Law Student's Lenten Prayer

(With thanks to Stanley Hauerwas)

by Jason Rohrck

Oh Lord God - you who have always been and always will be, you who are just, holy and sovereign - save me from the sin of putting my faith in liberalism instead of in your Word:

May my legitimate fear of the tyranny of non-liberal forms of government and, yes, the tyranny of old Christendom never blind me to Your command to love my neighbour as You have loved me. For to merely refrain from harming my neighbour out of fear of social or legal sanction would be to forget the meaning of the cross on which You died.

May I never believe that true communion with my brothers

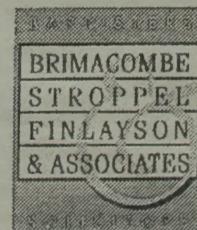
and sisters can be formed entirely on self-interested consent. May I seek and build relationships based on trust rather than mistrust.

May I never view the essence of rational purpose to be the pursuit of possessions. May I never equate a person's value with how much he or she consumes.

May I never accept the assumption that the destiny of a

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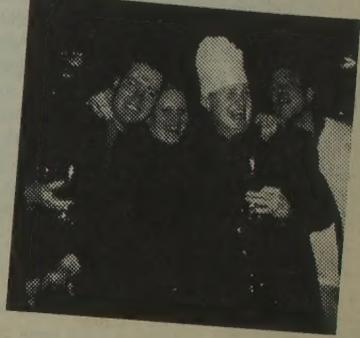
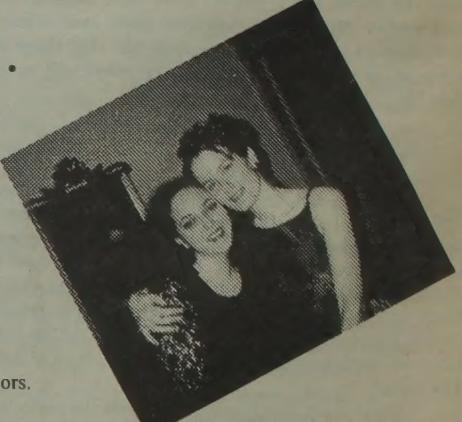
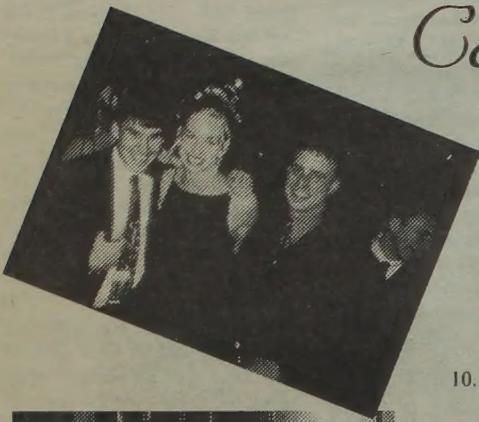
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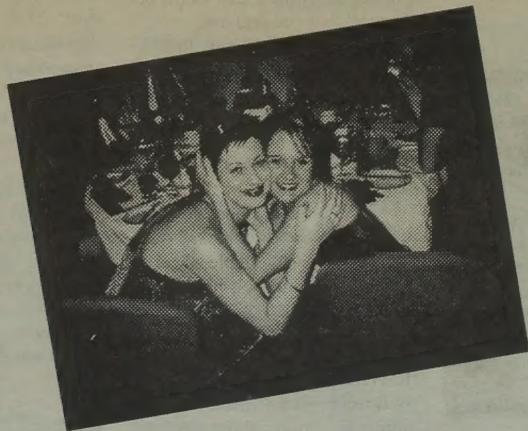
Memories of the Carbolic Smoke Ball...



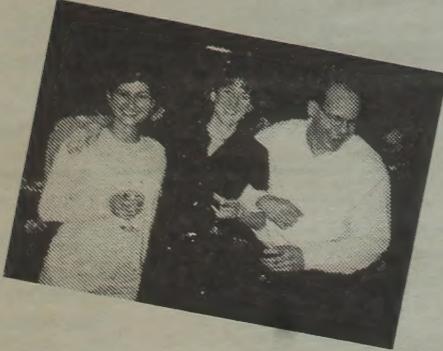
Carbolic Smoke-Ball Top Ten List

by Correna Mackett (1L)

10. The Cheesy Dee-Jays' Matching Sequined Jackets in Three Different Colors.
9. Two Free Bottles of Wine on Every Table.
8. The All You Could Eat Buffet.
7. Was That A Cow Tongue? The Mystery Meat in the First-Year Video.
6. Seeing All of Your Class-Mates Look Better Than You Ever Imagined They Could.
5. The L.S.A. Executive Buying Their Marks From Corrupt Professors.
4. Kim's Hair in the Something About Mary First Year Video.
3. Des Being Drawn Topless Wearing The Heart of The Ocean.
2. Lyle Buying Sandro In The Men's Washroom With L.S.A. Money.
1. The L.S.A. Video (Amazingly Funny For All Those Who Missed It!)



...and Vin Ordinarie



Photos by Marnie Plucer

Puppy Column: Summer Job Woes

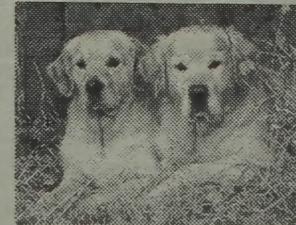
by Dennis Schmidt (1L)

Next to "Have you started studying for exams?", the most often asked question this spring is "What are you doing this summer?" For many of us the response is "my old job back home" or "I don't know." I find myself among the latter and usually follow that with "probably shoveling shite." For those of us who don't know yet what they plan to do this summer, and don't want to be shoveling animal excrement, the dilemma of searching for a job adds to the stress we already have preparing for exams. Although law-related jobs are still popping up under glass every now and then (keep your eyes open), these are becoming more infrequent as the semester dwindles down.

Whether you applied for any of the jobs posted under glass or not, many of us may have asked ourselves "why would I want to work with the law all summer when I've been doing it for the past 8 months?" We all have our reasons in favor of or against law-related jobs, however, because for the majority of us these few and far between positions are already filled

and the PFO letters already sent so we don't have to worry about doing law all summer anyway. Now that the hope of finding a summer job at a law firm has all but passed (congrats to those who did get one!!) and our law-related connections have fallen through, many of us will find ourselves pounding the pavement searching for that perfect waiter/waitress/landscaping/hitman/coffee shop job.

For those of us who don't want to spend a lot of time searching, and taking time away from studying, there are a number of alternatives to finding a job. On campus there is the Career And Placement Services (CAPS) office located on the second floor of SUB. They have a variety of jobs from tree-planting to sales and everything in between with convenient services and helpful staff to get you along on the route to making the big bucks this summer. If CAPS doesn't have the perfect job you're looking for there is also Hire-A-Student. This is a government-run service whose office opens up May 5th (phone number is in the book), which is perhaps a little late for those of us who need to work and start making



money right after exams. Nonetheless, many excellent jobs are posted here hence the fact that their opening day has become a yearly ritual with eager job-seekers lining up hours before the doors open. So if you're brave enough to get up early and wait in line Hire-A-Student may be the place to find your summer job.

I hope this short but sweet article will be of help to those who may have been helpless in their search for a summer job. Whether you'll be working at a law firm, or shoveling shite, I hope you all have a great summer and good luck on exams!!!



Law Curling Champions

We Came, We Saw, We did O.K.- Our Faculty's Year in Sports

by Jarret Mymko (2L)

Let me begin this sports 'wrap-up' with a few quick notes: 1) Don't blame me for any inaccuracies or complete lies in it. 2) It will not cover the rugby teams because all they did was lose.

First in a long line of events was 'Law's-A-Beach'. The weather was horrible and the slo-pitch was worse. Then again, any level of excitement this year would've amounted to a let-down compared to the now legendary Harvey/Jamie mud-bog collision of 1997. In the end, the 3rd years strung together a couple of wins, and became the self-proclaimed champs.

Hot on the heels of 'Law's-A-Drunk' came the ever popular 'El Hacko'. Once again our brave souls were greeted with a brisk autumn day; only this time the strangely intriguing sight of Jimmy the Kid's 'package' crammed into a purple speedo provided more than enough heat for us all. As for the golf, no course records have yet been confirmed.

During the first term our faculty also had several intramural teams competing hard to maintain Law's status as a U of A sports powerhouse. Both the men's and women's soccer teams fared exceptionally well. The women, with the likes of Kelsey "you want

a piece of this?" Becker and Jen "don't f*ck with me" Cleall, kicked the ball and their opponents' butts all the way to the final. BUT, they blew a 3-0 lead once there, lost and let us all down. Thanks gals. As for the men, a dominating season was fashioned, but a trip to the final was halted by a lopsided semi-final loss to an apparently much better team. Our boys were aided by Jimmy Dimovski's highlight 'headers', Rick Nielsen's brilliant

goalkeeping and the leadership provided by Jason McCulloch through his city championship experience at age 10.

Law's first champions of the season came in the form of our women's volleyball team. This pack of highly trained assassins destroyed the entire field in the rec. division despite being short one or two players most nights. Tara Shaw, Christine Ferguson and Elaine Anderson, to name a few, could often be heard screaming "Death from Above!" before showering down ball after ball to the face of an under-classed opponent.

For the first time (don't quote me on that), the law women played an entire season of ice hockey. Goalie Lynn-Michelle Mortensen stole the show. This ex-Brown University dynamo faced more shots than Lyle Brookes has had date rejections and saved damn near every one of them. Up front they were led by Erin Kuzyk who I understand "was too nice" to use her Panda's experience to score too many goals. I know Erin, she's not that nice :-). The schedule only allowed for a few games, but provided a good foundation for next year.

After Christmas, a team of our women had Law's best show-

ing ever at the iron woman, intramural, multi event 'all-niter'. I've been assured that this success has no correlation with our girls accustomed to being up 'all nite' (sorry, that was bad).

Mike Calahoo, Glyn Walters, Terry Waltenbury and Wade Clark won our 8-team curling bonspiel in late Feb. The boys hung on for a last shot, 4-3 victory over this writer's team. For the record: My teammates Geoff Hope, Chad Brown and Shawn Sipma are marginally better curlers than circus chimps.

Men's hockey will be wrapping up by 'print time'. Our guys fielded a Division I and a Division II team this year. The Div. I boys are on their way to the playoffs after a brilliant 5W-1L-1T season thus far. Daron "night train" Naffin and Kevin "I've got more moves than Dave Karp" Ozubko are key members of this 3rd year laden squad. Rumor has it that at mid-season they tried to trade Johnny Piasta for a roll or two of sock tape but there were no takers. The Div. II crew was plagued with 'Law Show' conflicts, forfeited a game and ended up at 3W-5L. It was an 'up and down' season as we were on the giving and receiving end of 12-4 and 9-2 sh*t-kickings respectively. Sign of good things to come next year: Mike "Player's Light" Vollman eventually made it through 3 full periods without passing out.

In closing, I wish the ringette team good luck- if they place high enough the Law Women will win their overall, intramural conference (see Kate Clayton for explanation).

So went the year in law sports. Thanks for coming out, getting involved and hopefully having fun. I love you.

Beagle Column

by Perbeen Mann

Spring Is In The Air! [Warning: You are about to embark on a meditative exercise. Possible side-effects include: confusion, frustration, hysteria and/or labeling the author as 'weird'. Please proceed at your own risk.]

The term is winding down rather quickly, with less than a month to go before exams begin. Blissfully, it will soon be over. We'll have survived second year to only be subjected to another stress-inducer, the relentless search for not only an article but a summer job.

Let's not just set off the panic button yet. Why not take a moment to just relax? Concentrate. Inhale. Feel the air rushing into your lungs. Now, push that air up and out through your lungs. Repeat. Can you hear the rhythm of your heart? Good.

Now imagine a set of buttons, much like that of the VCR. You see a fast forward button - push it. You are now seated at a desk in a very small windowless office. It's 6:30am and you have sheets of paper scattered on your desk and boxes of files on the floor. You pick up the phone and to your horror have 25 voice-mail messages that need to be heard and returned. Shift your attention to the computer on your desk. You log in only to realize that you have 40 new email messages. Welcome to your life two years from now.

Now press the rewind button. Return to the present. Picture



yourself taking a stroll down Whyte Avenue. (Who has time to go down to the River Valley?) Take a peek into the window shops. The cute little plush bunnies, just in time for Easter are simply adorable, aren't they? And what about the bright yellow daffodils? They are so beautifully refreshing. You can see the daffodils, can't you? (If not, try pretending.) Good. Now quit procrastinating and get back to the books!



Curlers in action



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